



Solid Waste Update

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Atchison County Effectively Operates Two Solid Waste Transfer Stations

by Joe Cronin

The federal and state Subtitle D municipal solid waste landfill (MSWLF) regulations went into effect in the early 1990s resulting in increased costs to construct and operate MSWLFs. Those increased costs prompted many counties to close their MSWLFs and transfer their solid waste to a landfill outside the county. A few counties relied on trash haulers to directly transport solid waste to a nearby landfill; however, most counties decided to manage solid waste by constructing and operating a transfer station. Most transfer stations are owned and operated by counties. A few are owned and/or operated by private companies. Currently 61 transfer stations are permitted by KDHE in Kansas. These range in size from a 20 cubic yard roll-off container to a 150 ft. by 250 ft. building in Wichita.

This article focuses on the operations of Atchison County's two relatively small transfer stations. Atchison County closed its two landfills in 1994 and opened transfer stations at two sites to most effectively



meet the needs of the county. The transfer station near Effingham is a 30 CY roll-off container which provides the rural residents of the western part of the county with a convenient solid waste disposal option. The main transfer station is located just west of the City of Atchison. This transfer station, designed by Schwab-Eaton, P.A., was constructed in 1994. The main station is of traditional design consisting of a 60 ft by 60 ft metal building with a concrete floor and a pit. Solid waste is pushed into a transfer trailer which is staged in the pit.

Solid waste is transported from the transfer stations by Deffenbaugh Disposal Industries to the Johnson County Landfill. Originally, the transfer trailer was exposed to wind since that part of the building was not enclosed. Litter problems ensued and the county added metal siding to back of the building and installed overhead roll-up doors at each end of the pit tunnel.

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The main transfer station is operated six days per week from 8:30 to 3:30 with extended hours in summer. Approximately two trailers are filled and removed each day which equals about 30 tons of waste per day. Atchison County provides integrated waste management to their citizens. The main transfer station also has a construction and demolition landfill and a recyclable metal area. A tree and brush burn area is located nearby at the one of the old landfills. The Effingham site

includes a waste tire monofill.

The Atchison County transfer stations have consistently operated in compliance with all applicable state solid waste regulations. KDHE district inspectors have often commented on the clean and efficient operation of the transfer stations. KDHE congratulates Atchison County supervisor, Jim Goodman, and transfer station staff on maintaining two well-operated small transfer stations.

Solid Waste Legislation in 2002

by Bill Bider, Director, Bureau of Waste Management

The 2002 Legislative Session has been actively considering several solid waste issues. Some bills have received little attention whereas others have resulted in heated debates before legislative committees. Two bills related to the operation of construction and demolition (C & D) landfills (HB 2703 and HB 2738) have been the most controversial because of the lobbying efforts of a small group of landfill owners from Johnson County. All solid waste bills are listed and explained below:

- HB 2686** An industry bill to establish new solid waste fees for on-site industrial landfills.
- HB 2703** A KDHE bill to establish a new classification of C & D landfill able to dispose of some wastes commonly generated at construction or demolition sites which are presently prohibited from disposal in existing C & D landfills (e.g. chemical containers, lunch bags, cups, furniture, appliances). This new class of landfill would be subject to additional design and operating standards to be established in regulations.
- HB 2704** A KDHE bill which clarifies county and regional solid waste planning requirements.
- HB 2705** A KDHE bill which establishes a new requirement for reporting waste diversion activities including the collection, processing, and use of recyclable or compostable materials.
- HB 2738** An industry bill to broaden the definition of C & D waste to allow materials such as chemical containers and small quantities of trash into existing C & D landfills. The bill also establishes some operating requirements for C & D landfills. (Note: KDHE strongly opposes this bill because the broadened definition for C & D waste would trigger federal landfill standards for all C & D landfills and it would cause environmental impacts by allowing hazardous constituents in landfills with no liners or groundwater monitoring).
- HB 2915** A legislator's bill which directs KDHE to become involved in regional and national "product stewardship" discussions and initiatives. The bill authorizes KDHE to enter into a contract with a private recycling association to help implement product stewardship principles in Kansas.
- HB 3002** A private solid waste company bill to restrict the actions of a municipality to establish franchised solid waste collection services.

Financial Assurance Under RCRA Subtitle D ... What is it? ... What Facilities are Covered?

by Brian Busby

Owning and operating a solid waste disposal facility or a solid waste processing facility is a costly business that requires financial stability from the beginning of the permitting process through the end of the post-closure period. The owner and/or operator must demonstrate that funds will be available to properly close the facility and provide for post-closure care. And they must provide insurance to compensate third parties for any injury or accidents that might result from facility operations.

What facilities are covered? Owners and operators of any permitted solid waste disposal or processing facility must provide financial assurance for closure. Municipal solid waste landfills and some industrial landfills must also have financial assurance for post-closure care.

What are the differences in meeting financial assurance requirements for local government and private ownership? Local government has greater flexibility in that they may use ad valorem taxing authority for any solid waste disposal area or processing facility other than a municipal solid waste landfill. Both public and private

entities have a variety of financial assurance methods available to them including bonds, trust funds, letters of credit, and a financial test. Review K.A.R. 28-29-2101 to evaluate the methods and identify the method that is the best fit for your business.

Financial assurance must be demonstrated with each new permit and annual renewals. When submitting documents for a new permit, renewing a permit, or when making a change in financial assurance methods, please check the website to ensure you are using the correct and most recent version of the form. The regulation requires that the wording of the financial document be identical to the wording the department provides. The department's forms for the various financial assurance methods can be downloaded from the website, http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/waste/bwm_download_page.html.

Using these forms assures that your firm or political entity will meet the requirements of the regulations.

If I may be of any assistance to you, please call Brian Busby at 785-296-0680 or e-mail him at bbusby@kdhe.state.ks.us.

BWM Reorganizes: Hires New Section Chief For Waste Reduction and Outreach

by Bill Bider, Director, Bureau of Waste Management

In late 2001, some minor organizational changes were made in the Bureau of Waste Management. Following the resignation of Mary Bitney, former chief of the Compliance Monitoring & Enforcement Section, John Mitchell was transferred to that position. He took with him some of his previous duties related to waste policy and regulation development. John's new section is called "*Waste Compliance, Enforcement, and Policy*."

The section which John previously held was reconfigured and called "*Waste Reduction, Planning, and Outreach (WRPO)*." This new non-regulatory section is responsible for all solid waste grants, county and regional planning, public education, interagency waste program coordination, waste tire clean-up, household hazardous waste program development, and conference and workshop planning and implementation.

Jim Rudeen was selected as the new chief of WRPO and began work for the bureau on March 4. Jim has about 15 years of experience working in the environmental field including 5 years with BWM from 1996 to 2001 when he managed the waste tire clean-up program and then the statewide household hazardous waste program. Jim has also worked in the KDHE environmental laboratory and in the Bureau of Water working on water quality standards.

Waste Screening at C&D Landfills

by Paul Graves

The State of Kansas relies on a system of limiting the types of materials going into construction & demolition (C&D) landfills in order to protect human health and the environment. This differs from the practice of some other states which require liners, leachate collection, and groundwater monitoring at C&D landfills, similar to the way that municipal solid waste landfills in Kansas are regulated.

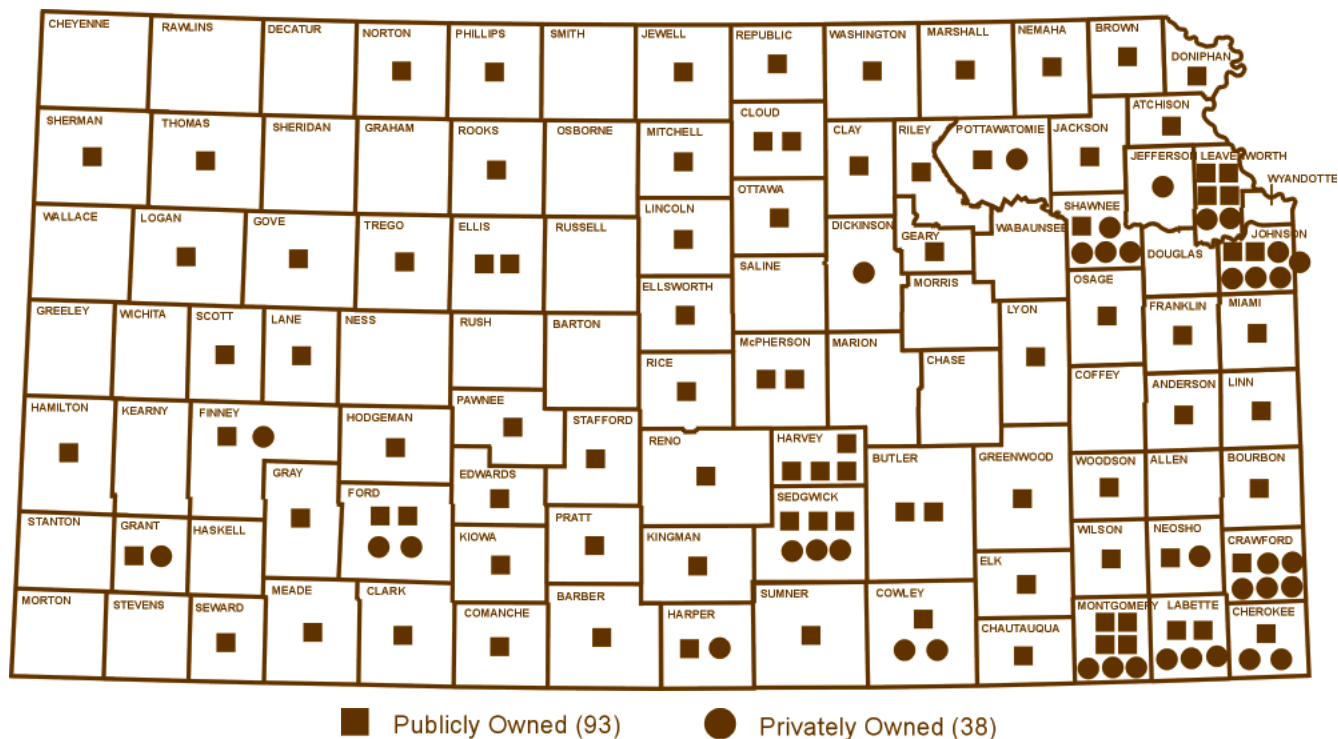
Kansas' approach has fostered a proliferation of C&D landfills, and at present there are 131 active ones permitted throughout the state. In general, this is thought to be environmentally and economically beneficial due to shorter hauling distances and a reduced propensity toward illegal dumping. However, there is a growing body of evidence that restricted wastes such as chemical containers and commercial trash have been illegally disposed into many C&D landfills in Kansas.

To help counteract illicit disposal, the Bureau of Waste Management requires load inspections (also known as "waste screening"), and recently published a new Technical Guidance Document SW 02-01 titled "Waste Screening and General Operations at Construction & Demolition Landfills". This paper is available on the Bureau's web site at the following location: <http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/waste/guidance/sw02-01.pdf>

The guidance document covers how to establish a waste screening program in the landfill operations plan. It also provides information on educating customers on waste restrictions, training and safety considerations for landfill staff, and load inspection practices. One of the key messages is that waste screening should be practiced at many levels, beginning with proper sorting of waste at construction sites and ending with picking unacceptable materials from a designated load inspection area near the landfill active face.

The guidance document also explains the significance of waste screening to the continued permissibility of C&D landfills in Kansas. It is believed that continued disregard for the waste restrictions could result in EPA rescinding the state's authority to permit C&D landfills or mandating more stringent design and operating standards. In light of this, the state is also focusing inspection efforts toward achieving compliance at all of these facilities.

C & D Landfills



Training Opportunities for Transfer Station Operators and Small Arid Landfill Operators

by Dennis Degner

Training Opportunity for Transfer Station Operators and Supervisors

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the SWANA/Kansas "Sunflower Chapter" will again jointly sponsor training for operators, supervisors, and managers of Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Stations (MSWTSs). This training course will be held November 6 and 7, 2002 at the Best Western Holiday Manor in McPherson. We are planning to have another high quality course similar to the one held in 2000 when over 60 persons attended the training in Manhattan..

Training course flyers will be mailed in early September so watch your mail for details and plan to attend if you work at a transfer station, manage a transfer station, or you are interested in learning more about transfer station operations. We intend to have knowledgeable and experienced transfer station managers from Kansas present their best ideas on how you can improve the quality and

efficiency of operations at your MSWTS. In addition, you will be able to learn about and observe operations of the McPherson Area Solid Waste Utility's Transfer Station. This facility was featured in the September 2000 edition of Solid Waste Update.

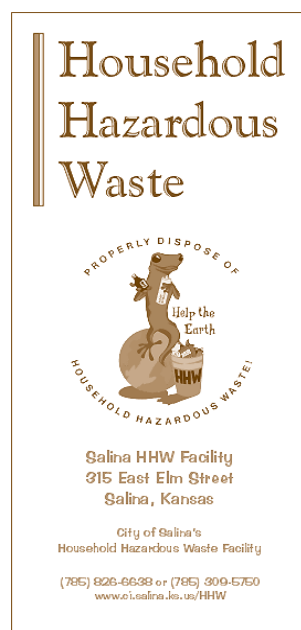
Advanced Level Training for Small Arid Landfill (SAL) Operators and Supervisors

Due to the strong interest expressed for additional Small Arid Landfill operator training at the November 7-8, 2001 MSWLF and SAL Operator Training course in Hutchinson, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment will be providing advanced level SAL field training on September 18 and 19, 2002 in Colby (Thomas Co.). The training, which will feature knowledgeable and experienced SAL managers from Kansas and KDHE staff, will focus on real world landfill operations and groundwater monitoring.

We plan to mail training course flyers in early July. Please watch you mail for details.

KDHE Assistance in HHW Public Education

by Cathy Colglazier



KDHE's Bureau of Waste Management is initiating a state-funded public education project for Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) programs. This new program will provide direct assistance to county and regional programs for the development and printing of educational materials (i.e. posters, brochures) and for limited purchase of miscellaneous promotional items (pens, stickers, etc.). Each participating county may spend up to \$3,000 for the printing of brochures and posters and for the purchase of promotional items.

The City of Salina's HHW facility was the pilot project for the new program. With the assistance of Salina's HHW staff, posters and brochures were developed and printed for distribution. The HHW facility also chose to have pens, pencils, stickers, and battery collection bags purchased for its program.

To participate in the program, the county must sign and submit an agreement form to KDHE. Participants will be worked in the order the agreement forms are received. Depending on the popularity of the program, some delay is possible. If you would like additional information or would like to sign up for the program, please contact Cathy Colglazier at (785) 291-3132 or (800) 282-9790.

The “Working Face” of Waste Imports and Exports

by Kent Foerster

A decade ago, Governor Joan Finney and the General Counsel of KDHE, Robert V. Eye, stood at the state line in Kansas City, Kansas with a court order to stop a trash train from New Jersey that was headed to the landfill in McPherson County (which is now closed). Several years later, Kansas was in the national news again, as being in the top ten importers of waste (almost all from Missouri). While our waste imports are no longer in the news they still account for a significant portion of the solid waste disposed in Kansas landfills. Landfill owners reported receiving 637,379 tons in 2001 from Missouri and Oklahoma, or about 11 percent of landfilled waste.

A total of ten Kansas counties account for almost all of the import and export trash traffic in Kansas. Landfills in seven border counties import wastes from Missouri and Oklahoma. Five receive wastes primarily from Missouri: Doniphan County, Waste Management’s Forest View landfill in Wyandotte, Deffenbaugh’s landfill in Johnson County, USA Waste Services’s Oak Grove landfill in Crawford County and Resource Recovery, Inc. in Montgomery

County. Forest View also gets some trash from Nebraska. American Disposal Services of KS in Cherokee County receives wastes from Missouri and Oklahoma and Seward County landfill receives wastes from Oklahoma. Four south central counties (Sumner, Cowley, Montgomery and Sedgwick County) **export** wastes to Oklahoma.

Years ago, the U.S. Courts declared trash a commodity that was subject to the interstate commerce clause of the US Constitution. This means that states and localities have little control over the movement of solid wastes across state lines. The courts, in essence, recognized what conservationists and environmentalists have been saying for a century, that solid waste is a resource or commodity. Counties and communities desiring to limit the importation or exportation of trash have to go through a careful solid waste management planning process and develop contractual agreements to have any chance of controlling the flow of their wastes.

In future articles, we will look further into the movement of trash in Kansas and their legal implications.

Composting at Confined Animal Feeding Facilities Workshops

by Ken Powell

The Bureau of Waste Management, in cooperation with the Kansas Livestock Association and the Bureau of Water, contracted with Larry Wilhelm of the Organics Recycling Institute to conduct a series of six workshops on Composting at Confined Animal Feeding Facilities (CAFOs). The meetings were held to provide CAFO operators with the information they need to determine if manure and dead animal composting was an activity that they could effectively incorporate into the facility’s operation. Each attendee was provided a copy of the On-Farm Composting Handbook, which was used as the primary training course textbook. Topics covered included Introduction to Organic Recycling, Compost Farming, Getting Started, Kansas Regulations, Site Requirements, Developing Partnerships, Compost Quality and Success Stories. Approximately 160 people attended the six workshops. The attendees included CAFO operators, government regulators, and other groups which regularly work with feedlot operators. Attendees can receive additional information and training at the Recycling & Composting Works! conference in Emporia on March 19-22. K-State will also be providing a Composting Operators’ School on June 11-12 to provide hands on experience to

New KDHE Emergency Response Plan

by Ron Smith

The Hosington tornado last year brought to light a need for KDHE to be better prepared to address emergency situations that arise across our state. Although the Division of Emergency Management developed and has in place the Kansas Emergency Operations Plan, KDHE's role in emergencies was not clearly defined. A committee, representing all program areas with the department was formed.

This committee's responsibility was to draft the KDHE Disaster Assistance Plan. This plan has been completed and KDHE staff are currently being trained on how to use it. This training should be completed within the next few weeks, ready for the next tornado season.

The plan will utilize a state-wide notification number that the Kansas Division of Emergency Management can contact to put the plan into action. Once the plan is implemented, the Department will appoint an on-scene coordinator as well as a central office coordinator for full implementation of the plan.

The central office coordinator will act as the single point of contact for the Department during the course of plan implementation. The on-scene coordinator will act as the liaison between the impacted local communities and citizens, and the Department. Each on-scene coordinator has been provided an emergency response kit containing necessary items to effectively respond to the emergency on behalf of the Department.

Within the KDHE Disaster Assistance Plan, the responsibility of the Bureau of Waste Management (BWM) is outlined and identifies contacts within the bureau. BWM staff will assist the central office and on-scene coordinators with solid waste disposal issues regarding the disaster. This may be any of the following: (1) locating the nearest permitted solid waste disposal sites, (2) obtaining emergency disposal authorizations, and (3) establishing disposal site locations, either temporary or permanent. The plan streamlines the process of

KDHE Implements Waste Characterization Study

In the fall of 2001, Engineering Solutions & Design began work on a multi-year study for KDHE to characterize the solid waste which is being managed at the following three municipal solid waste landfills and two transfer stations:

- Rooks County Landfill
- Rolling Meadows Landfill (Shawnee County)
- Finney County Landfill
- Anderson County Transfer Station
- Wilson County Transfer Station

These facilities were selected to represent the diverse areas of Kansas. The composition data developed through four seasonal sampling events at each location will be combined with information generated earlier for other state locations to give a thorough picture of the waste which is currently landfilled in Kansas. This information will be valuable with respect to future state and local solid waste planning, especially as related to waste reduction efforts.

The fall and winter sampling events have been completed. Following the spring and summer events, a final report will be prepared and disseminated to interested parties.



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Calendar Items

April 26, 2002	Round #11 Competitive Plan Implementation Grant Deadline
May 17, 2002	Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Grant Deadline Small Quantity Hazardous Waste Generator (SQG) Grant Deadline <i>(August 16, 2002 & December 13, 2002 deadlines subject to availability of funds)</i>
Aug. 27-28, 2002	KDHE Environment Conference, Topeka
Sept. 13, 2002	KDSI Day at Kansas State Fair, Hutchinson
Sept. 18-19, 2002	Advanced Level Training for Small Arid Landfill Operators, Colby
Nov. 1-2, 2002	KACEE Environment Conference, Atchison
Nov. 6-7, 2002	Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station Operators Training, McPherson
Nov. 15, 2002	America Recycles Day

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